

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 057812

52

ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14

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DRAFTED BY EUR/ EE: RGJOHNSON: RTS

3/28/73 EXT 21070

APPROVED BY EUR: JAARMITAGE

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R 291441 Z MAR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMCONSUL MUNICH

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 057812

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US/ AL

SUBJECT: US- ALBANIAN RELATIONS: QUERY BY GREEK MFA

REF: ATHATHENS

1. RUMOR THAT US AND ALBANIA HAVE RECENTLY BEGUN TALKS ON
DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS HAS NO BASIS IN FACT.

2. GREEKS SEEM TO BE MORE ACTIVE THAN OTHERS IN KEEPING
THIS RUMOR IN RECURRENT CIRCULATION. DEPARTMENT INTERESTED
IN EMBASSY ANALYSIS OF GREEK NATIONAL INTEREST IN US-
ALBANIAN RELATIONS, INCLUDING QUESTIONS OF TIMING AND
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PAGE 02 STATE 057812

DETAIL.

3. DEPARTMENT UNFAMILIAR WITH REPORT THAT ALBANIAN GOVERNMENT IS CONCERNED WITH POST- WORLD WAR II US CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTIONS ON NORTHERN EPIRUS/ SOUTHERN ALBANIA.

4. FYI DEPARTMENT WISHES TO DISCOURAGE SPECULATION OVER POSSIBLE " MEDIATING" ROLE BY GREECE OR OTHER THIRD COUNTRIES. APPARENTLY THE GOG SEES SOME INTEREST IN KEEPING THIS IDEA ALIVE, AS EXEMPLIFIED BY KAVALIERATOS STATEMENT AT NICOSIA PRESS CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 1, 1972 PURPORTEDLY DENYING BUT ACTUALLY FLOATING IDEA THAT US HAD ASKED GREECE TO MEDIATE RESTORATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN US AND ALBANIA.

5. UNLIKE GOG, GOVERNMENTS OF ITALY, FRANCE AND THE UK HAVE DIRECT INTEREST IN SETTLEMENT OF GOLD CLAIMS, AN ISSUE THAT WOULD BE INVOLVED IN RESTORATION OF RELATIONS. ITALY AND FRANCE HAVE REPEATEDLY OFFERED WELCOME VIEWS AND COUNSEL ON ALBANIAN MATTERS OVER PAST TWENTY- FIVE YEARS. MEDIATING ROLE BY ANY ONE COUNTRY WOULD RISK MISINTERPRETATION NOT ONLY IN TIRANA BUT IN OTHER CAPITALS. END FYI ROGERS

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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